SAWPA Commission

Meeting Minutes **September 17, 2013**

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	REPRESENTING
Phil Anthony, Chair	Orange County Water District
Don Galleano	Western Municipal Water District
Ron Sullivan	Eastern Municipal Water District
Mark Bulot	San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Terry Catlin	Inland Empire Utilities Agency

OTHERS PRESENT	
Harry Sidhu	Orange County Water District
Ed Killgore	San Bernardino Valley MWD
Ravi P. Ravishanker	Eastern Municipal Water District
Derek Kawaii	Western Municipal Water District
Tom Gaworski	Orange County Sanitation District
Don Lee	Tetra Tech
Celeste Cantú	SAWPA
Rich Haller	SAWPA
Larry McKenney	SAWPA
Mark Norton	SAWPA
Karen Williams	SAWPA
David Ruhl	SAWPA
Carlos Quintero	SAWPA
Jerry Oldenburg	SAWPA
Patti Bonawitz	SAWPA

The Regular Meeting of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Phil Anthony at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority Office at 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503. Commissioner Catlin led the flag salute. Chair Anthony requested a roll call. A quorum was noted as present with representation from all five member agencies: SBVMWD, EMWD, WMWD, IEUA, and OCWD. Chair Anthony called for public comments; however, no comments were received.

NEW BUSINESS

INLAND EMPIRE BRINE LINE REACH V REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (CM#8797)

David Ruhl stated this design engineering work needs to be done due to the Brine Line Reach V spill on October 18, 2011. He discussed the scope of work, the selection process, proposed schedule, and funding requirements. Of the four proposals received, the top three bids were opened and reviewed. Dudek was the most qualified and had the lowest fee proposal. Chair Anthony asked if there were any concerns about the significant range of fees proposed. David Ruhl replied no, but staff sat down with Dudek staff and examined their proposal thoroughly.

Discussion ensued regarding the repairs on the referenced section of the Reach V Brine Line. David Ruhl said the line was repaired; however, staff still is concerned about the condition of a five-mile stretch of pipeline, as well as another area about eight miles long, where extensive investigations have found poor compaction and over-deflection of the pipeline that led to the pipe failure and brine spill on October 18, 2011.

Upon motion by Commissioner Bulot, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan, the motion unanimously carried:

13-09-06
MOVED, approval and authorized the General Manager to execute Task Order No. DUDK326-01 with Dudek for engineering design services for the Inland Empire Brine Line Reach V Rehabilitation and Improvement Project, for an amount not-to-exceed $381,218.

PROTECTION OF BRINE LINE WITHIN UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD EASEMENT (CM#8798)

Carlos Quintero stated that Union Pacific Railroad Company's (Union Pacific) decision to relocate its Riverside Industrial Lead track in the City of Colton impacts both the Inland Empire Brine Line and the RIX pipelines. Union Pacific provided little notice to protect our lines, and the protection of those lines is required due to the additional soil placed over the pipelines and train loading not contemplated in the original design. SAWPA and San Bernardino Municipal Water Company decided to partner to address this potential conflict. He discussed the four possible alternatives to protect the lines, noting that Union Pacific believes the best option is the installation of a "steel split casing while pipe flowing alternative."

Discussion ensued regarding the 50/50 split, which only is on the feasibility and design engineering services, not construction. The RIX pipeline is 57 inches, which is much larger than SAWPA's 36-inch brine line. Also discussed was an easement to cross over. Carlos Quintero said about 150 feet of the Brine Line will be impacted, so the projections must be limited to that as well.

Upon motion by Commissioner Catlin, seconded by Commissioner Bulot, the motion unanimously carried:

13-09-07
MOVED, approval and authorized the General Manager to reimburse the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department for an amount not-to-exceed $100,000, corresponding to 50 percent of the cost for the feasibility analysis and design to protect the Brine Line and RIX Line, as a result of the Union Pacific Industrial Lead Line Relocation Project.

COMMENTS ON GRAND JURY REPORT: RIVERSIDE COUNTY WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICTS, COMPENSATION AND TRANSPARENCY (CM#8804)

Larry McKenney stated that in July 2013, the Grand Jury released their Riverside County Report focusing on transparency and compensation for Directors/General Managers. There were three findings and two recommendations that SAWPA must respond to:

1. Health insurance and retirement benefits of Directors in relationship to rate setting. That recommendation is not applicable to SAWPA because SAWPA does not provide those benefits to its Commissioners.

2. Making agency records and information available through the agency's website. SAWPA meets the standards that are recommended with the exception of the General Manager's contract, which will be uploaded and posted to SAWPA's redesigned website by the end of this month.

3. Agencies should hold their public meetings at night to facilitate ratepayer attendance. As SAWPA's ratepayers are all agencies and businesses, meeting during the work day is more conducive to their attendance, so staff recommends not implementing this recommendation.

Upon motion by Commissioner Galleano, seconded by Commissioner Sullivan, the motion unanimously carried:

13-09-08
MOVED, approval of the response letter to the Riverside County Grand Jury Report of July 3, 2013, Riverside County Water and Sanitation Districts, Compensation and Transparency, and authorize the Chair to execute the letter.

OLD BUSINESS

PRETREATMENT PROGRAM STATUS UPDATE

Rich Haller said staff will discuss long-term staffing with OCSD staff at today's gate meeting. Requirement 6, the Gate 11 Exit Gate meeting, has been deferred to September 30, in order to provide OCSD additional information about SAWPA's member agencies' organizational structure and staffing qualifications.

On August 27, SAWPA submitted a letter to OCSD regarding synchronization and clarification on Requirements 7, 8, and 10, and proposed a new compliance date of December 13, 2013. OCSD responded on September 10 and agreed to the revised dates. The Exit Gate for Requirement 7 (Policies Manual, ERP, and Procedures Manual) and Exit Gate for Requirement 8 (Problem Permits) are now rescheduled for December 13, 2013.

The data management system is progressing quite well and staff continues to work closely with enfoTech. OCSD has approved the projected start date of December 18, 2013 to begin using the application.

The current focus remains on preparing all of the program documents.

Rich Haller reviewed the approval steps and schedule that will lead to the draft Ordinance No. 7 public hearing on October 15, 2013. There will be a workshop with the dischargers on September 18. Commissioner Galleano said that he, and possibly the other Commissioners, would be interested in reviewing the comments received at tomorrow's workshop, and suggested that perhaps a workshop could be conducted with the Commission to review specific changes proposed in the Ordinance and the comments received. Rich Haller said he appreciated comments as it makes for a better document. He stated that the draft ordinance will be reviewed in detail at the next Project Agreement 21 Committee meeting (10-4-13). SAWPA's goal is to have a fully compliant program that runs as efficiently as possible.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion by Commissioner Mark Bulot, seconded by Commissioner Galleano, the motion unanimously carried:

13-09-09
MOVED, approval of the Consent Calendar.

A. The Commission approved the Minutes from the meeting held on 9-3-13.
B. The Commission received and filed the Treasurer's Report – July 2013.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

The following oral/written reports/updates were received and filed.

A. Caltrans I-215 Bi-County HOV Gap Closure Project Construction Ramp Crossing Over Brine Line (CM#8799)

B. OWOW Update

Mark Norton reported that staff efforts continue in drafting the OWOW 2.0 Plan, which is scheduled to be released on September 30, 2013. Staff currently is focusing on writing the Executive Summary. The majority of the Plan has been drafted incorporating the Pillars' chapters. There will be a one-month public review/comment period, with Plan adoption by the OWOW Steering Committee targeted for November 21, and final adoption by the SAWPA Commission by end of the year.

A Pillar Workshop will be conducted on September 26 at 9 a.m., focusing on management strategies and regional projects. Those management strategies developed that morning will be brought forward to the Steering Committee at their meeting that afternoon (September 26 at 3 p.m.).

The "Call for Projects" for Round 3 funding is anticipated to be made in early 2014. Projects are targeted to be packaged and submitted to DWR by late 2014.

Celeste Cantú added that many of the member agencies' staffs contributed by writing chapters of the draft Plan, and she thanked the member agencies for their participation in drafting the Plan.

Chair Anthony asked if Round 3 was the last round of funding under Proposition 84. Mark Norton replied that it is; however, other categories may be available (i.e., stormwater funding), although they have a different schedule, but also have three rounds of funding in that grant program. The grant program focus is on protection of lakes, streams and rivers, and lower impact development [LID].

C. Legislative Report
Celeste Cantú stated that the legislature's work is ending this year, and bills are being prepared to go to the Governor. This has not been a big year for water; however, it is anticipated that next year will be. Discussion briefly ensued regarding the 2014 Water Bond. This topic will be discussed at the October 1 Commission Workshop.

D. Fourth Quarter FYE 2013 Expense Reports
- Staff
- General Manager

E. Inter-Fund Borrowing – July 2013 (CM#8802)

F. Performance Indicators/Financial Reporting - July 2013 (CM#8803)

G. General Manager's Report
Celeste Cantú reported that she recently met the new U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Colonel, Kim Colloton.

H. Chair's Comments/Report
None

I. Commissioners' Comments
Commissioner Sullivan said he recently attended an ACWA Conference in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, where he participated in a Forest Management session. They discussed that their true costs in managing devastating forest fires is probably about 1/20th of their actual costs, which also includes significant other fire-management related costs (i.e., debris, flooding, etc.). Forest Management has tried to get some reimbursement, but it seems to no avail. He was quite surprised that it was shared that some water districts openly stated that because they would have to wait for two-three years to obtain a permit, they just went right in, without a permit, and thinned the forests before they were stopped. The work needed to be done in order to maintain and keep the forests healthy in their region. Discussion ensued. Celeste Cantú noted that SAWPA's Burn Report prepared in 2003 explains this very scenario. This resulted in SAWPA partnering with our region's U.S. Forestry to create the Forest First Program, as it is known today.

CLOSED SESSION
None.

Commissioner Bulot asked about the status of OCWD's letter regarding CalPERS employer-employee paid contributions. Celeste Cantú replied that the matter will be on the October Commission Meeting agenda. Chair Anthony thanked Mark Bulot for inquiring.

There being no further business for review, Chair Anthony adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

APPROVED:
October 1, 2013

Phil Anthony, Chair

2013-9-17 Com Min

Scanned